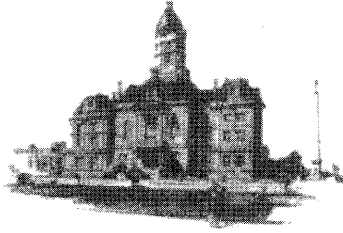


**David R. Bolk**

Judge  
Vigo Circuit Court



Courthouse  
33 South Third Street  
Terre Haute, IN 47807  
Telephone: (812) 462-3241  
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July 31, 2006

Hon. Randall Shepard  
Chief Justice  
Indiana Supreme Court  
217 State House  
200 West Washington Street  
Indianapolis, IN 46204

RE: Vigo County Caseload Plan

Dear Chief Justice Shepard:

Pursuant to Administrative Rule 1(E) and Order of the Indiana Supreme Court dated December 22, 2005, enclosed please find Vigo County's submission of the Caseload Distribution Plan. The Plan is submitted to you on strikethrough, disc and a clean copy. Also enclosed is a Request for Approval of Local Caseload Allocation Rule.

Supporting documentation was submitted to State Court Administration in May I believe. There is no substantive change from the Plan that was submitted in December, 2005 and amended effective February, 2006, except for paragraph (D)(2) of Rule LR84-CR2.2-2. The previously submitted rules had contained a scrivener's error that apparently has gone undetected for the past eight (8) years. The only other changes are stylistic insofar as the Plan is being incorporated to an amendment of our Local Rules.

A proposed amendment of the Vigo County Local Rules has been submitted electronically on today's date.

Should you have any questions or wish to discuss the matter further, please contact me.

Very truly yours,

David R. Bolk, Judge

DRB/tlr

Enclosures

IN THE  
INDIANA SUPREME COURT

IN THE MATTER OF REQUEST FOR  
APPROVAL OF LOCAL RULES FOR  
COURTS OF RECORD IN VIGO COUNTY

CASE NO. \_\_\_\_\_

**REQUEST FOR APPROVAL OF LOCAL RULES**

The judges of the courts of record of Vigo County have decided to adopt the local rules indicated below and request Supreme Court approval for the following local rules for which Supreme Court approval is required:

Caseload allocation rule pursuant to Administrative Rule 1.

The local rule indicated above has been published for comment pursuant to the schedule established by T.R. 81(B) for not less than forty-five (45) days.

Accordingly, the judges of record of Vigo County request approval of the above noted local rules

Submitted this 31<sup>st</sup> day of July, 2006.

For the Courts of Record of Vigo County

DAVID R. BOLK, Submitting Judge

David R. Bolk

**Rule 17**  
**~~Case Distribution Plan~~**

**~~Criminal Cases (CR)~~**

**LR84-CR2.2-2**      **Criminal Case Assignments**

- (A) Except as provided for in paragraph (B) and (C) below, the following rotation for felony cases is adopted for Superior Court Division 1, Circuit/Superior Court Division 3, and Superior Court Division 6, and is based upon the time of the occurrence of the offense:
- (1) Offenses occurring between 12:01 A.M. on the first day of each month through midnight on the 7<sup>th</sup> day of each month will be assigned to Superior Court, Division 1.
  - (2) Offenses occurring between 12:01 A.M. on the 8<sup>th</sup> day of each month through midnight of the 15<sup>th</sup> day of that month will be assigned to Circuit/Superior Court Division 3.
  - (3) Offenses occurring between 12:01 A.M. on the 16<sup>th</sup> day of each month through midnight of the last day of that month will be assigned to Superior Court Division 6.
  - (4) In the case of multiple offenses, the date of the earliest offense alleged in the charging document shall assign the rotation date and assignment of the court. If a case involves both felony and misdemeanor charges, the case shall be considered a felony for application of this rule.
- (B) All criminal misdemeanor and Class D Felonies arising out of domestic relations shall be assigned to Superior Court Division 4.
- (C) All criminal misdemeanor and Class D Felonies relating to controlled substances and Class C Felony controlled substance cases which the prosecutor deems appropriate for Drug Court shall be assigned to Superior Court Division 5. All criminal misdemeanor and D felonies relating to the operation of a motor vehicle shall be assigned to Superior Court Division 5. Habitual Traffic Violator charges filed as Class C felonies shall be assigned to Superior Court Division 5.
- (D) The following rotation for criminal misdemeanor offenses is adopted for Superior Court Division 4 and Superior Court Division 5:
- (1) Misdemeanor offenses occurring between 12:01 A.M. on the first day of each month through midnight on the 15<sup>th</sup> day of each month will be

assigned to Vigo Superior Court Division 4.

- (2) Misdemeanor offenses occurring between 12:01 A.M. on the 15<sup>th</sup> 16<sup>th</sup> day of each month until midnight on the last day of that month will be assigned to Vigo Superior Court Division 5.
  - (3) In the case of multiple offenses, the date of the earliest offense alleged in the charging document shall assign the rotation date and assignment of the court. If a case involves both felony and misdemeanor charges, the case shall be considered a felony for application of this rule.
- (E) A judge of the Circuit or Superior Courts, by appropriate order entered in the record of judgments and orders, may transfer and reassign a case to any other court of record in the county with jurisdiction to hear the charged offense subject to acceptance by the receiving court.
- (F) When the State of Indiana dismisses a case and chooses to re-file that case, the case shall be assigned to the court from which the dismissal was taken.
- (G) In the event additional charges are filed against a criminal defendant subsequent to the assignment of the case, all such additional charges shall be assigned to the court of initial assignment.
- (H) (1) In the event a change of judge is granted or it becomes necessary to assign another judge in any criminal proceeding in Superior Court Division 1, the case shall be reassigned to either Superior Court Division 3 or Superior Court Division 6 on a rotating basis. If the receiving judge cannot accept jurisdiction the case shall be reassigned to the alternative court. If the judges of Superior Court Division 3 and Superior Court Division 6 cannot accept jurisdiction, the case will then be reassigned to either Superior Court Division 4 or Superior Court Division 5, on a rotating basis.
- (2) In the event a change of judge is granted or it becomes necessary to assign another judge in any criminal proceeding in Superior Court Division 3, the case shall be reassigned to either Superior Court Division 1 or Superior Court Division 6 on a rotating basis. If the receiving judge cannot accept jurisdiction the case shall be reassigned to the alternative court. If the judges of Superior Court 1 and Superior Court Division 6 cannot accept jurisdiction, the case will then be reassigned to either Superior Court Division 4 or Superior Court Division 5, on a rotating basis.
- (3) In the event a change of judge is granted or it becomes necessary to assign another judge in any criminal proceeding in Superior Court Division 4, the case shall be reassigned, first, to the judge of Superior Court Division 5. If the judge of Superior Court Division 5 cannot accept jurisdiction, the case will then be reassigned to either Superior Court Division 1, Superior

Court Division 3 or Superior Court Division 6 on a rotating basis.

- (4) In the event a change of judge is granted or it becomes necessary to assign another judge in any criminal proceeding in Superior Court Division 5, the case shall be reassigned, first, to the judge of Superior Court Division 4. If the judge of Superior Court Division 4 cannot accept jurisdiction, the case will then be reassigned to either Superior Court Division 1, Superior Court Division 3 or Superior Court Division 6 on a rotating basis.
- (5) In the event a change of judge is granted or it becomes necessary to assign another judge in any criminal proceeding in Superior Court Division 6, the case shall be reassigned to either Superior Court Division 1 or Superior Court Division 3 on a rotating basis. If the receiving judge cannot accept jurisdiction the case shall be reassigned to the alternative court. If the judges of Superior Court 1 and Superior Court Division 3 cannot accept jurisdiction, the case will then be reassigned to either Superior Court Division 4 or Superior Court Division 5, on a rotating basis.
- (I) In the event no judge is available for assignment or reassignment of a felony or misdemeanor case, such case shall be certified to the Indiana Supreme Court for appointment of a Special Judge. In the event the judge presiding in a felony or misdemeanor case concludes that special circumstances presented in such proceeding require appointment by the Indiana Supreme Court of a Special Judge, the presiding judge may request the Indiana Supreme Court make such appointment.
- (J) This rule does not prohibit the filing of appropriate criminal offenses in the Terre Haute City Court to the extent of its jurisdiction.

**LR84-AR01-2**      **CASE ASSIGNMENTS**

**(A) CRIMINAL CASES** shall be filed pursuant to LR84-CR2.2-2.

**(B) CIVIL CASES**

**(1) DISSOLUTION ACTIONS (DR)**

The filing of dissolution actions shall be filed in the following proportionate rotation:

Vigo Superior Court Division Two	50%
Vigo Superior Court Division One	16.66%
Vigo Superior Court Division Three	16.66%
Vigo Superior Court Division Six	16.66%

**(2) PROBATE**

The filing of probate matters shall be filed in the following proportionate rotation:

Vigo Superior Court Division One	33.33%
Vigo Superior Court Division Two	33.33%
Vigo Superior Court Division Three	33.33%

**(3) CIVIL TORT (CT)**

The filing of civil tort actions shall be filed in the following proportionate rotation:

Vigo Superior Court Division Six	50%
Vigo Superior Court Division One	16.66%
Vigo Superior Court Division Two	16.66%
Vigo Superior Court Division Three	16.66%

**(4) CIVIL PLENARY (PL)**

The filing of civil plenary actions shall be filed in the following proportionate rotation:

Vigo Superior Court Division One	40%
Vigo Superior Court Division Two	20%
Vigo Superior Court Division Three	20%
Vigo Superior Court Division Four	20%

**(5) CIVIL COLLECTIONS (CC)**

The filing of civil collection actions shall be divided equally among all Vigo Superior Courts on a random rotation basis.

**(6) MORTGAGE FORECLOSURES (MF)**

The filing of mortgage foreclosures shall be filed in the following proportionate rotation:

Vigo Superior Court Division Three	33.33%
Vigo Superior Court Division One	16.66%
Vigo Superior Court Division Two	16.66%
Vigo Superior Court Division Four	16.66%
Vigo Superior Court Division Six	16.66%

**(7) SMALL CLAIMS (SC)**

The filing of small claims actions shall be in the following proportionate rotation:

Vigo Superior Court Division 4	60%
Vigo Superior Court Division 5	40%

**(8) PROTECTIVE ORDERS (PO)**

Petitions for protection orders and workplace restraining orders shall be filed in Vigo Superior Court Division 4 except for protection order petitions filed by a party:

1. To a pending marriage dissolution case or to a marriage dissolution case in which a decree has been entered and there are minor children to the parties. These petitions shall be filed in the Court presiding over the dissolution action.
2. To a pending paternity case or who is a juvenile or naming a juvenile as respondent. These cases shall be filed in Juvenile Court.

**(9) MENTAL HEALTH CASES (MH)**

All mental health cases filed shall be in Vigo Superior Court Division 2.

**(10) JUVENILE COURT (JP)**

To the extent of its jurisdiction, all juvenile matters shall be filed in the Juvenile Division of the Vigo Circuit Court.

As in the past, Vigo County Judges shall continue to cooperate with one another to insure the effective and efficient administration of justice by assisting one another with hearings, should they be available to do so.

~~Effective Date: February 6, 2006~~